

Ohlone boosts air personality's rise to the top

By **BRANT SHEAFFER**
News editor

As the early morning Ohlone students rush off to school or work, many are tuned in to KEZR and listening to Sean King, former Ohlone KOHL radio station DJ turned morning radio show host.

According to King, hosting a morning show is every DJ's ultimate goal. The job didn't come instantly, but took years of hard work and some lucky breaks. "It's a certain amount of skill, but if you don't get your breaks you really have to claw your way in," said King.

King credits what he learned from Ohlone's radio instructors Bob Dochterman and Tom Briseno as the reason for his success.

"I learned everything I needed to learn here (during time spent at KOHL)," said King. "If I never came to Ohlone I would never be where I am... My entire success is solely their doing."

King hosts the show with Steve Dini Monday to Friday from 5 to 9 a.m. on 106.5 FM. In the future he hopes to host a morning show in a city with a large market like San Francisco. He says he'll know he's made it when he can call the financial shots with his employers.

"When money becomes no object to get you on their station you know you're doing something right." In the meantime, King's main goal is "Just to do quality

work day in and day out."

King, 26, first became interested in radio as a freshman in high school while attending Chabot's College for Kids. He signed up for TV, but the class was too big and had to be split in two. Students were given a choice between taking radio or TV. King was interested in a girl who was in the class. She chose radio so he took radio in hopes of getting to know her better. He didn't get the girl but he found his career.

While a student at San Lorenzo High School, King read the morning announcements over the school P.A. system for two years presenting them in the form of a radio show. In 1985, while he was in high school, King worked with John London who was the morning show host at KMEL.

At first it was an unpaid internship that King got after calling up London on a regular basis and giving him ideas for his show. He was later hired to write for London and to help with production elements of the show.

King worked at KMEL until 1989 and took radio classes at Chabot College after graduating from high school. His first on-air job as a DJ was at KKIQ doing the overnight shift on weekends, which he did for two years. After his first year at KKIQ, King had become really bored with the job and felt he was making little progress towards his goal of hosting a morning show.

King's instructor at Chabot knew



Photo by Aric Crabb

Sean King, morning show host on KEZR, stands by the tools of his trade. King has been hosting the show since May.

about the radio program at Ohlone and sent King over to check it out. Once he saw the program at Ohlone, King realized it was where he wanted to be.

"Once I saw the program, I quit Chabot right away and came over here," said King.

After six months at Ohlone the Program Director at K-FOX (KUFX) got a copy of King's

aircheck tape and hired him to work weekend mornings. The job lasted for six months until 1992, when the station was sold.

After K-FOX, King took his tape over to Star-FM and got a job there working mornings. Star-FM was sold in 1994 and the station became KSOL. King was kept on for a while to do mornings on KSOL until they hired someone else.

After being let go from KSOL, King decided to come back to Ohlone in 1994 to polish his skills. King had kept his job at Summit Medical Center in Oakland while working the jobs at K-FOX, Star-FM and KSOL. He wound up staying at Ohlone until May 1995, when he was hired as the morning show host at KEZR.

